

PRESS RELEASE

Congressman John Conyers, Jr.

**Fourteenth District, Michigan
Ranking Member, Committee on the Judiciary
Dean, Congressional Black Caucus**

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:
September 13, 2001

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CONYERS WORKS WITH CUSTOMS SERVICE AND AUTO INDUSTRY TO RELIEVE MICHIGAN-CANADA BORDER DELAYS

In response to extensive delays at the Michigan-Canada border, Rep. John Conyers, Jr. (D-MI) issued the following statement:

“We are all horrified by the vile and cowardly terrorist attacks that took place on September 11. Although the attacks were targeted at the World Trade Center and the Pentagon, all Americans were wounded. Along with our efforts to hunt down and bring to justice those people who committed, supported, or aided in this atrocity, we need to increase security at our airports and our borders to prevent future attacks.

“As we all know, increased security comes at a price. The Michigan-Canadian border has become a bottleneck, with trucks waiting as long as 12 hours to cross. This has the potential to cause significant harm to Detroit’s auto industry, which relies on the delivery of parts from Canada to maintain operations. As a result of the delays and the unavailability of parts, auto makers have already been forced to stop production at several Michigan factories. As we ask Americans to try to get on with their lives, we should make every prudent effort to protect their jobs.

“Although the attacks have already touched every American, I want to minimize – to the extent possible -- their impact on Detroit’s economy and on Detroit’s auto industry. That is why today I contacted the Customs Service to inform them of the problems that the border delays are causing for the auto industry.

“The terrorist bombings will test our resolve as a nation. I look forward to working with the Administration to address this issue, consistent with ensuring the safety of our citizens and security of our borders.”

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